

Good afternoon Senator Doyle, Representative Baram and Members of the General Law Committee. My name is Dr. Chris Gargamelli and I represent the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), which includes the majority of Connecticut licensed veterinarians as its members. We write in support of SB 378, An Act Concerning the Collection and Disposal of Unwanted Pharmaceuticals.

Veterinarians are unique amongst practitioners in that we often dispense the medications we prescribe. As such, we share many of the same concerns as pharmacies in regards to unwanted pharmaceutical waste. In addition to supporting this bill, we ask that it be amended to include persons licensed to practice veterinary medicine, surgery, or dentistry pursuant to section 20-199.

CVMA member veterinarians wish to be good stewards of the environment and minimize the unsafe disposal of pharmaceuticals. Including veterinarians in SB 378 will facilitate the proper disposal of unwanted pharmaceuticals from veterinary facilities.

Thank you,

Christopher Gargamelli, DVM Immediate Past-President, CVMA

Eva Ceranowicz, DVM Past President CVMA

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